

The Woman Hiding in the Crowd 178

1 The wom - an hid - ing in the crowd reached
 2 From Christ went forth the heal - ing grace, her
 3 The wom - an knelt be - fore him then with
 4 The bur - dens now that weigh us down, the
 5 So touch us, Lord, with heal - ing grace and

for Christ's gar - ment hem that sim - ply by the
 health and life re - stored. "Who touched my clothes?" the
 joy and anx - ious fear, and Je - sus blessed her
 sins we fear to speak, the ache of heart and
 make us whole a - gain that we may al - ways

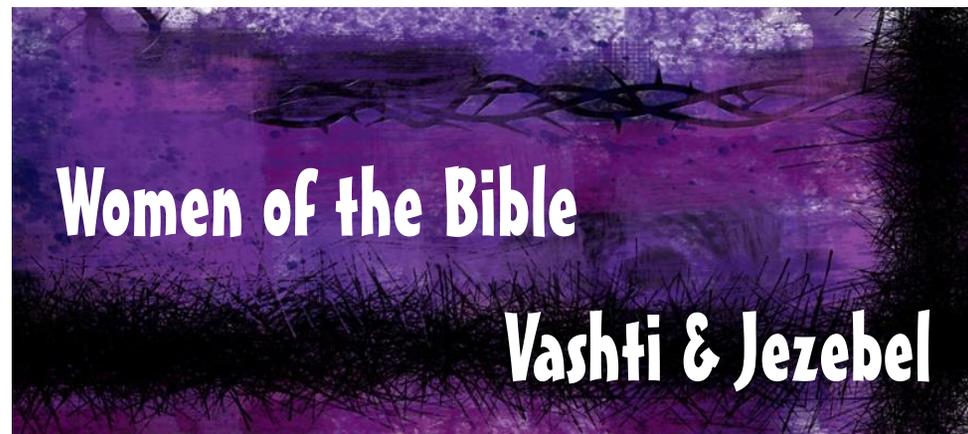
touch of it she might be healed with - in.
 Sav - ior asked, but no one said a word.
 lov - ing - ly: "In peace go forth from here."
 emp - ty soul we lay be - fore your feet.
 live in you and know your peace with - in.

The first three stanzas are based on the story of Christ's healing of a woman with an internal hemorrhage (Mark 5:24b-34/Luke 8:42b-48). By expanding and applying this event, the final two stanzas provide a helpful model of how scripture can be related to our own lives.

Welcome to Riverside Presbyterian Church

March 11, 2018 ~ Fourth Sunday of Lent

Ask an usher for audio hearing units. ~ Please silence your cell phones.
 Childcare is available for children 1st grade and younger in the upstairs childcare room.
 Sermons available at <https://vimeo.com/riversidepresbyterian>



CHIMING THE HOUR
 WELCOME

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

* PASSING OF THE PEACE (Responsive)
 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

PRELUDE & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE
What Wondrous Love Is This

arr. Manz

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)
 In this place, the community of faith is reminded of the promise:
God's love endures forever!
 In spite of our impatient grumbling,
 despite our attraction to the shadows:
Christ's light shines in us!

When we think our hands are empty,
when we have no music in our souls:
**the Spirit fills us with glad songs,
and creates us for good works!**

* HYMN 210 *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*

* CALL TO CONFESSION

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

The Light of the world has come, Ceaseless Creator, but we admit we love the shadows all around us. For there, we can boast of our achievements, rather than point to your grace; there, we can grumble of our unhappiness with you, instead of singing your praises; there, we can give into our natural anger, and not be touched by your call to be agents of peace and hope. Forgive us, Eternal Love: raise us up as your children, so we may kneel in service to others; shower us with the grace, the hope, the peace you have brought to us through Jesus.

Silence is kept.

* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* HYMN *You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!*

**You are the Lord, giver of mercy!
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!**

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

TIME WITH CHILDREN *Children are invited forward*

**In my heart there rings a melody, there rings a melody with
heaven's harmony; in my heart there rings a melody;
there rings a melody of love.**

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE Selected verses from Esther 1
Selected verses from 1 Kings 16, 19 & 2 Kings 9

MEDITATION *The Story of Two Queens ~ Vashti & Jezebel*

* HYMN 298 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

INVITATION TO OFFER OUR GIFTS

ANTHEM *We Adore You, O Christ* Proulx

* HYMN 428 vs 1 *We Give Thee but Thine Own*
**We give Thee but Thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is Thine alone, a trust O Lord, from Thee.**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

* HYMN *The Woman Hiding in the Crowd*

* BENEDICTION
CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Toccata in d minor* Froberger
* *You are invited to stand if able.*